

What to Expect: Kansas City Metro ESSENCE Recruitment Project

Kansas and Missouri hospitals located within the Kansas City metropolitan area have been selected to recruit for possible participation in the Missouri ESSENCE project. For more information on this project, please visit www.dhss.mo.gov/ESSENCE or contact us at ESSENCE@dhss.mo.gov or 573-751-6407.

Here are the steps outlining the process for ESSENCE recruitment.

1. Attend one of our informational Webinars and/or review materials provided.
2. Complete web surveys provided via e-mail to assess eligibility and willingness to participate in the ESSENCE recruitment project this year.
3. Eligible and interested hospitals or their hospital information system vendor will sign a contract with DHSS to reimburse for costs associated with implementing the project. Target date: June 15, 2010.
4. Hospital or vendor will send technical paperwork to get started with Information Technology Services Division (ITSD). Target date: within 30 days of signing contract; around July 15, 2010.
5. Test virtual private network (VPN) and submit test messages for review by ITSD for HL7 structure and content as specified in the HESS HL7 2.3.1 Messaging Guide. Target date: within 90 days of signing contract; around September 15, 2010.
6. Hospital or vendor staff will work with ITSD to achieve validation on structure and content of messages and to establish a permanent data feed via VPN (to move into 'production'). Target date: December 31, 2010.
7. Invoicing and reimbursement for costs associated with implementing project.
8. Register hospital staff for ESSENCE and attend training.
9. Sign Data Sharing Agreement with DHSS to maintain data feeds for an additional five years. It should be noted that maintenance costs should be minimal for continued participation.